# Missouri Technology

**Missouri State Government's Information Technology Community News**

Spring/Summer 2003

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## Missouri IT News

### New Online Offerings From Secretary of State Matt Blunt's Office

Historians, Civil War buffs and other interested Missourians now have access to an exciting database of Missouri's Civil War history. "The Civil War Provost Marshal Index Database" is now available online at www.sos.state.mo.us.

An innovative lesson plan is now available for Missouri teachers who want to introduce their students to a "lost chapter" in the history of African Americans in Missouri, which was a slave state. The new online lesson plan is part of Blunt's African American History Initiative, a program to use the unique resources of the Missouri State Archives in expanding all Missourians' knowledge of the state's rich, culturally diverse history. The classroom enrichment activity is intended to support educators in developing curriculum for Black History Month and is geared toward $4^{th}$ through $8^{th}$ grade students. The online curriculum project, "Before Dred Scott: Freedom Suits in Antebellum Missouri", is now on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mo.us.

Service cards for Missouri Soldiers and Sailors can now be readily accessed online through the Secretary of State's website. Over 18,500 U.S. Navy service cards for those who enlisted or were drafted from Missouri are now available on an online database. The records of these Missouri Sailors join the records of over 145,000 Missouri Soldiers drafted during World War I already available on the same database, the "World War I Military Service Cards Database." This online military database is available at www.sos.state.mo.us.

### Check Inquiry System
### Now Available

How convenient would it be to have the ability to view outstanding checks issued by an agency at your desktop computer? Thanks to the efforts of the State Treasurer's Office (STO), that very convenience is now available. This feature, recently introduced, is the result of requests from various agencies and an FY01 audit finding recommending that the STO provide state agencies with reports of aging outstanding items.

The system allows the State Treasurer's Office and other agencies immediate access via a browser to the status of a check issued by their agency. Previously, agencies needed mainframe access to the system and/or relied on the STO for the information. The check number may also be clicked on to display additional data.

This is a great example of using technology to solve a business problem and free up time it would typically take an employee to track down the status of an outstanding check. For more

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information please contact Nicole Hackmann at Nicole_Hackmann@mail.sto.state.mo.us or Scott Peters at Scott_Peters@mail.sto.state.mo.us.

### *Community Connection Selected*
### *For "Go Local" Program*

Community Connection was notified by the National Library of Medicine/National Institute of Health that it had been selected for the State of Missouri to participate in the MEDLINEplus "Go Local" program. MEDLINEplus is a national website that provides information primarily about health and human service topics. North Carolina is currently a pilot site for MEDLINEplus, but beginning in October 2003 Community Connection will be added to the website as the Missouri connection.

Community Connection is Missouri's link to both public and private resources such as agencies, organizations, clubs, associations, schools, churches, libraries and others. Accessible from the state's portal and searchable by region or subject matter, this database is available at www.communityconnection.org.

### *E-Government*
### *Initiative Update*

The state's e-government initiative continues to move along challenged by the current budget constraints. With the state's budget situation, a self-funding model becomes essential in moving forward and establishing the IT infrastructure necessary for real-time, online transactions. Research uncovered that the initial funding model proposed by the e-government vendor, IBM, will require legislative changes now slated for the FY05 session. Efforts now focus on a second funding model that will result in generating revenue during FY04, thus providing forward movement for the e-government effort.

The Office of Information Technology recently established a digital government committee associated with the Information Technology Advisory Board (ITAB) and comprised of state agency CIOs. One of the many tasks of this committee is to create an inventory of all existing e-government projects across state agencies. This inventory will allow the committee to prioritize the order in which e-government projects should be moved behind the state's portal.

One of the e-government goals is to use the portal to establish "One Stop" transactional venues for our citizens. The Office of Information Technology is playing a pivotal role in bringing together agencies that are involved in the new business registration process. The goal will be to establish a "One Stop" capability for the citizen in registering a new business without having to navigate the bureaucracy within state government. This process will allow the citizen to submit their information once and use the technology to populate the information across the involved agencies. Another goal with this project will be the review of information sharing needs for federal, county and local new business registration requirements.

### *Corporation Filers*
### *Save with Online Filing*

Those corporations, both profit and nonprofit, who must register annually with Missouri can now save money, time and paperwork by filing online. The Corporation Division of the Secretary of State's Office is now accepting 2003 annual registration reports on the Internet, 24/7, via secure links.

During the first week of online service, more than 2,000 customers completed their annual report registration electronically, with filings made at all hours of the day at the convenience of the filer. Additionally, immediately after filing, the new 2003 annual registration report will be available on the Secretary of State's website to view and print under "Annual Report History."

Secretary Blunt was quoted as saying "technology is a vital tool for Missouri businesses. I have directed that we make it a top priority to modernize the office to provide convenient and efficient service to the public. In the future, we hope to offer additional services online, including certified copies and requests for good standing for businesses. This summer, nonprofit corporations and out-of-state businesses will be able to file on the Internet, using this new service."

### *Gerry Wethington Receives National Recognition*

Gerry Wethington recently received two commendations for his leadership in establishing national enterprise architecture models and standards. Nominated by the Department of Homeland Security CIO Steve Cooper, Gerry was presented the Pioneer Award from the SecureE-Biz Leadership Summit Board. The April 1 presentation was made by Mark Foreman, associate director for information technology and e-government for the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

"Gerry has been a long-standing and devoted advocate for information sharing on the state, local and federal levels," says Elizabeth Miller, executive director of NASCIO. "His leadership in the CIO community and beyond has spurred more strategic use of technical resources, allowing these investments to progress faster and more efficiently at the state and national level. It is wonderful to see the commitment that both he and the State of Missouri have demonstrated, recognized in the national arena."

"This leadership from Missouri is certainly an outstanding example to follow," according to Governor Holden's Chief of Staff, Jane Dueker. "Gerry has leveraged his work with these leading national organization to improve efficiency, cost savings and service to the citizens and agencies in his home state. Due in large part to his efforts, Missouri is recognized as a champion for intergovernmental collaboration and sound project management and integration – the underlying principles that guide development of a true enterprise architecture."
*Quotes provided by NASCIO press release.*

### Court Automation Program Receives International Award

The Office of State Courts Administrator (OSCA) recently received the Computerworld Gold Medal of Achievement for its work to automate the state courts using a single automated case management system. Chief Information Officer, Jim Roggero, attended the formal presentation ceremony in San Francisco and received the Medal of Achievement on behalf of the State Judiciary.

The award is given annually to those who have made progress for society through the innovative use of technology. To commemorate the award, a case study describing the program was presented to more than 70 museums and research institutions, including Harvard and Oxford Universities, the Smithsonian Institution and the Carnegie Museum.

OSCA's case management system helps courts manage their increasing dockets with greater efficiency. It also allows courts to share information about repeat offenders, improves a court's ability to track and collect court fees, and increases public safety by allowing the electronic transfer of certain court information directly to law enforcement. OSCA is certainly to be congratulated on this prestigious award!

### *NASCIO Releases Two National Documents*

NASCIO recently announced the release of two online documents that will prove helpful to state government CIOs. Accessible on the NASCIO website located at www.nascio.org, these are available to NASCIO members to download.

Of particular interest to CIOs and their staff who deal with privacy issues is the *Federal Privacy Law Compendium*. This document summarizes ten federal laws that deal with the privacy of information and highlights instances of potential impact to state government. Developed and published by NASCIO in consultation with its Privacy Committee, it is offered as a benefit to its members.

For those who formulate business cases for information technology, the newly released document *Business Case Basics and Beyond: A Primer on State Government IT Business Cases* is available online. The primer details elements that are crucial to making the case for IT projects and programs and contains examples of how states and the federal government formulate IT business cases. The primer was developed and published by NASCIO.

### Scott Peters
### Office of the State Treasurer

❑ **How long have you been in this agency's CIO position?** *I've been serving Missouri State Treasurer, Nancy Farmer, as Director of Information Technology and Operations for over two years. I began with the Treasurer's Office in May of 2001.*

❑ **How many on your IT staff?** *With a small number of employees, there isn't a need for a large IT staff. I have a total of three employees. I have two programmers, Daniel Moeller and Jeff Iler, who develop in-house applications and maintain existing off-the-shelf systems. I have one network administrator, Kim Evers, who maintains the STO network and provides end-user support.*

❑ **What has been your biggest challenge?** *Being a small office with a small budget and not much to offer, I've had employees move on to bigger-and-better opportunities. With a small IT division, if you can call it a division, it's important that I hire the right person. I need someone that has specific skills and specific knowledge. I need someone that is going to work well with the other two people in this team.*

*The personnel issues are the most challenging. And I'm not sure they'll ever get any easier.*

❑ **What accomplishment are you most proud of?** *I am proud of the team. I have had and continue to have some truly talented young men and women on my team in the last two years, such as Nathan Steinman, Brent Pacheco, Chris Schepers and the current staff, Daniel, Jeff and Kim.*

*The team and I have had many successes in the last two years.*
o *An in-house Linked Deposit System that saved the Treasurer's Office and the State of Missouri approximately $6000 a month in consulting and hardware maintenance charges.*
o *An in-house Collateral Tracking System that saved the Treasurer's Office and the State of Missouri approximately*

*$3000-$5000 a month in charges from a contractor.*

*And last but not least, our biggest accomplishment-to-date would be the Check Inquiry System for all the state agencies. This project was fairly straightforward when you considered the programming that was involved, however, it was the coordination of the project that was complicated for us. We had several entities within state government and outside of state government that we were dependent upon to make this system work the way we intended to develop it. It's amazing to me that within a year we were able to successfully accomplish our goal and provide a system that all state agencies could access via a browser window. Developing this system in-house allowed other vendors to bid on our check disbursement contract and removed the State of Missouri's reliance on the only outside vendor providing the system. The system also allowed for agencies to be less reliant on us for the information via phone or fax, now the agencies can have the data available to them at their fingertips.*

❑ **What is the most important thing to you as a CIO?** *Respect. Respect is the most important thing to me as a CIO, as a manager, as a supervisor, co-worker, any role you play in this world. Respect is the key to my success as a manager and as a human being. When you respect the people you work with and live with, you get that respect back from them. Everyone wants to be acknowledged, appreciated, and accepted. When you give these things to people, they are willing to accomplish more than they or you ever expected.*

June 19, 2003
Missouri Digital Government Summit
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City
http://www.govtech.net/events/conference.phtml?confid=108

September 7-10, 2003
NASCIO Annual Conference
Scottsdale, Arizona
www.nascio.org

## Important Links

Missouri Office of Information Technology (OIT): www.oit.mo.gov

National Association of State CIOs (NASCIO): www.nascio.org

Center for Technology in Government: www.ctg.albany.edu/

Project Management Institute: www.pmi.org